

Amendments to the Abstract

Please substitute the paragraph presented on the next page for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

ABSTRACT

An artificial intervertebral disk, insertable between two adjacent vertebral bodies of a patient and joining the two adjacent vertebral bodies in an articulated manner, includes an intermediate element embodied as an elastic ring and is inserted into one respective molded portion of two outer elements configured as metal plates. The outer elements are joined to the bones of the vertebral bodies via anchoring pins, especially titanium anchorings previously known in hip endoprosthetics. The radius of the concave molded portion is greater than the diameter of a circular cross-sectional area of the intermediate element such that compression of the intermediate element caused particularly by the patient's movement allows for a defined deformation.